



3661

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of : Tino KIRSCHNER
Serial no. : 10/089,732
Filed : with an effective filing date of November 21, 2000
For : PLANETARY GEAR FOR MOUNTING ON AN
ELECTROMOTOR
Group Art Unit : 3681
Docket : ZAHFRI P437US

The Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED

JUL 11 2002

SUBMISSION OF ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

GROUP 3600

Dear Sir:

Enclosed please find an English translation of the International Preliminary Examination Report concerning the above-identified application. Please enter the same into the record of this case.

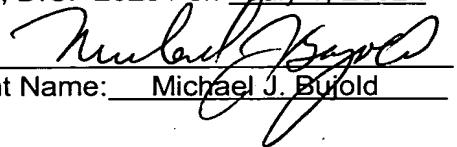
In the event that there are any fee deficiencies or additional fees are payable, please charge the same or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account (Account No. 04-0213).

Respectfully submitted,


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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service, with sufficient postage, as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231 on July 1, 2002.

By: 
Print Name: Michael J. Bujold

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT
**NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL
 OF COPIES OF TRANSLATION
 OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
 EXAMINATION REPORT**
 (PCT Rule 72.2)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

ZF FRIEDRICHSHAFEN AG
 88038 Friedrichshafen
 ALLEMAGNE

TS Eingang

21. Juni 2002

Date of mailing (day/month/year) 07 June 2002 (07.06.02)	
Applicant's or agent's file reference 7676 WO E PA-RU	IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION
International application No. PCT/EP00/11582	International filing date (day/month/year) 21 November 2000 (21.11.00)
Applicant ZF FRIEDRICHSHAFEN AG et al	

1. Transmittal of the translation to the applicant.

The International Bureau transmits herewith a copy of the English translation made by the International Bureau of the international preliminary examination report established by the International Preliminary Examining Authority.

2. Transmittal of the copy of the translation to the elected Offices.

The International Bureau notifies the applicant that copies of that translation have been transmitted to the following elected Offices requiring such translation:

CN,JP,KR,US

The following elected Offices, having waived the requirement for such a transmittal at this time, will receive copies of that translation from the International Bureau only upon their request:

EP

3. Reminder regarding translation into (one of) the official language(s) of the elected Office(s).

The applicant is reminded that, where a translation of the international application must be furnished to an elected Office, that translation must contain a translation of any annexes to the international preliminary examination report.

It is the applicant's responsibility to prepare and furnish such translation directly to each elected Office concerned (Rule 74.1). See Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide for further details.

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland Facsimile No. (41-22) 740.14.35	Authorized officer Maria KIRCHNER Telephone No. (41-22) 338.83.38
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Translation

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 7676 WO E PA-RU	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/EP00/11582	International filing date (day/month/year) 21 November 2000 (21.11.00)	Priority date (day/month/year) 25 November 1999 (25.11.99)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC F16H 57/02		
Applicant ZF FRIEDRICHSHAFEN AG		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, including this cover sheet.

This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of _____ sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I Basis of the report
- II Priority
- III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV Lack of unity of invention
- V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI Certain documents cited
- VII Certain defects in the international application
- VIII Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 18 April 2001 (18.04.01)	Date of completion of this report 07 February 2002 (07.02.2002)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/EP00/11582

I. Basis of the report

1. This report has been drawn on the basis of (*Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to the report since they do not contain amendments.*):

- the international application as originally filed.
- the description. pages 1-7, as originally filed.
pages _____, filed with the demand,
pages _____, filed with the letter of _____
pages _____, filed with the letter of _____
- the claims. Nos. 1-11, as originally filed.
Nos. _____, as amended under Article 19.
Nos. _____, filed with the demand,
Nos. _____, filed with the letter of _____
Nos. _____, filed with the letter of _____
- the drawings. sheets/fig 1/1, as originally filed,
sheets/fig _____, filed with the demand,
sheets/fig _____, filed with the letter of _____
sheets/fig _____, filed with the letter of _____

2. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- the description. pages _____
 the claims. Nos. _____
 the drawings. sheets/fig _____

3. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

4. Additional observations, if necessary:

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.
PCT/EP 00/11582

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-11	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1-11	YES
	Claims		NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-11	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations

Subject matter: planetary gear train for mounting on an electric motor.

Prior art: DE-C-198 08 184 discloses a gear train having the features of the preamble of independent Claim 1.

Object: to minimize the power losses associated with the known gear train.

Solution: provided by the characterizing features of the independent claim: the seal element is mounted axially outside the locating area for the drive shaft of the electric motor such that the outside diameter of the axial section of the sun gear shaft, in which the seal element contacts the sun gear shaft, can be reduced relative to the locating area.

Although it is known in principle that a low relative speed between seal and shaft results in lower power losses, it is not obvious how this principle might be applied to a gear train of the prior art.

Claim 1 and dependent Claims 2-11 therefore meet the requirements of PCT Article 33(2) and (3).